UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Los Angeles, California

January 28, 1964

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

By letter dated January 11, 1964, one J. D. Royce, 496 West Scott Avenue, Clovis, California, advised Parade Publications, Incorporated, New York, New York, that he had what he believed to be "positive proof that Lee Henry Oswald did not assassinate the President of the United States." In the letter Royce requested one thousand dollars plus round trip air fare to New York to bring the information to Parade Publications Office and also stated that if he was correct he would expect "without question" a loan in the amount of $35,000 on a ten years note at 8% in order that he might materialize a life long dream of a business in his field. He claimed that his letter was not a "crank letter", that he is "an Electronic Engineer, married has four children, twenty-five years, white, and carry secret clearances U. S. Army 1957, U. S. Air Force 1961."

Royce furnished the following information to Special Agents of the FBI on January 23, 1964, at which time, he stated that the "positive proof" he referred to in his letter was based entirely on a double page photograph which appeared on pages 24-25 of the December 14, 1963 edition of the Saturday Evening Post. He stated that after examining this photograph with a magnifying glass, which photo was reported to have been taken the instant President Kennedy was shot, he is convinced that the individual standing in the background at the left edge of the doorway is Oswald. He added that, if so, then Oswald could not possibly have fired the fatal shot at that instant. He stated further that comparing this photo through a magnifying glass with a photo of Oswald taken later, as well as his jacket, he is convinced that the man in this photo is Oswald because of the same texture of material in the jackets, the same approximate height of the two, the same hairline, and the same facial features. He stated that he cannot believe that if Oswald was actually upstairs in the building at the time, that there would be another individual so similar in appearance and apparel standing in a doorway of the building at the same instant.

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Royce stated that this is the entire basis for his letter, and he could be wrong but he feels certain he is not. He added that he also wrote an identical letter to the editor of the Saturday Evening Post on the same date he sent the letter to Parade Publications, Incorporated. He stated that he has had no reply to either letter.

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